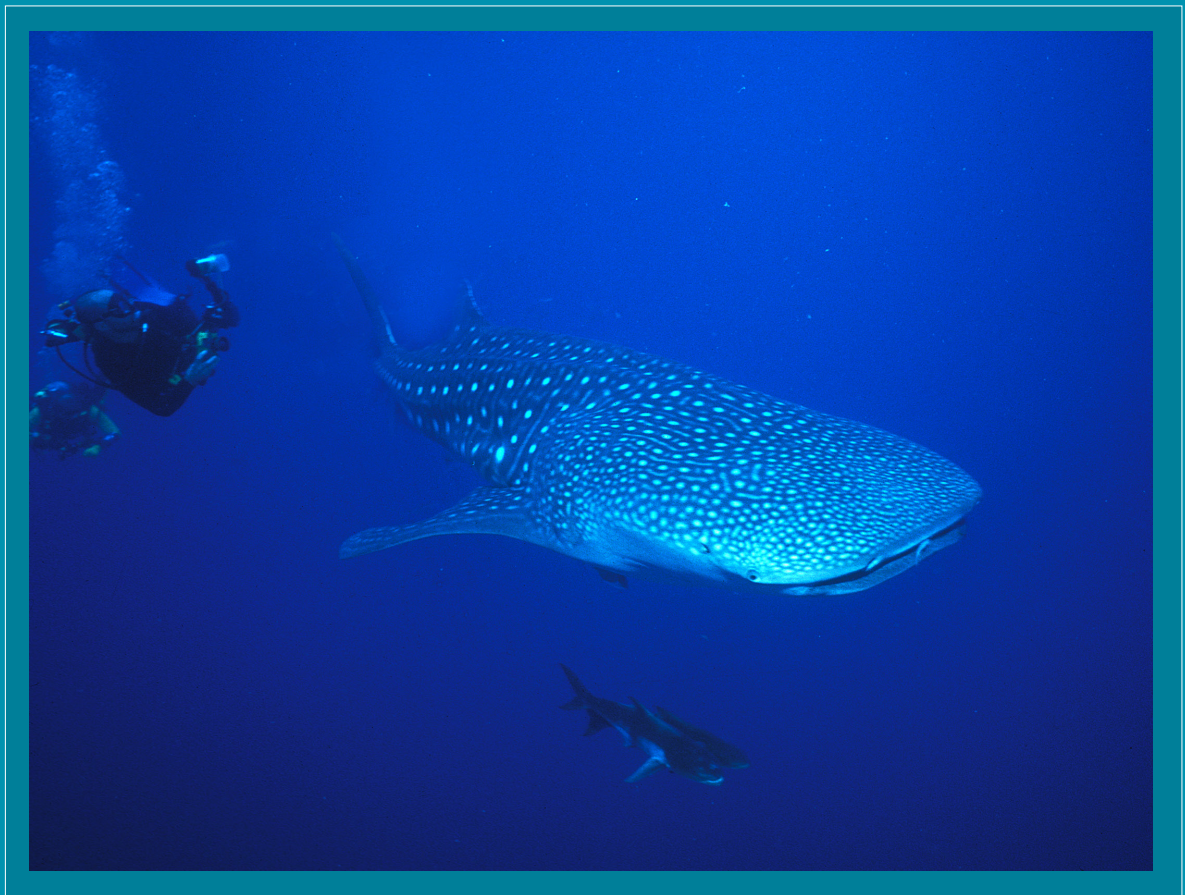


National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
FLOWER GARDEN BANKS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY



FLOWER GARDEN BANKS DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN



October 2010

<http://flowergarden.noaa.gov>

FLOWER GARDEN BANKS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

OCTOBER 2010



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of Commerce

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About This Document

This document is a result of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries' (ONMS) periodic review of the strategies and activities detailed in the *1991 Final Environmental Impact Statement and Management Plan* and the emerging resource protection issues for Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (FGBNMS or sanctuary).

A sanctuary management plan is a site-specific planning and management document that describes the goals, objectives, policies, management strategies, and activities for a sanctuary.

Proposed changes to management strategies in this plan, as well as to FGBNMS regulations, are considered major federal actions requiring an environmental analysis pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). To this end, NOAA prepared an environmental assessment to analyze the potential impacts to the natural and human environments that may result from revising the 1991 FGBNMS management plan and the FGBNMS regulations.

This document is the revised Draft Management Plan (DMP) for Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary. A summary of the environmental assessment (EA) is included within this document, while the full EA document is available from the sanctuary web site at <http://flowergarden.noaa.gov>.

When final, this plan will outline the program activities for FGBNMS over the next five years and beyond, along with staffing and budget needs, and performance measures.

Comments or questions on this Draft Management Plan should be directed to:

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NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY SYSTEM



Figure 1: National Marine Sanctuary System

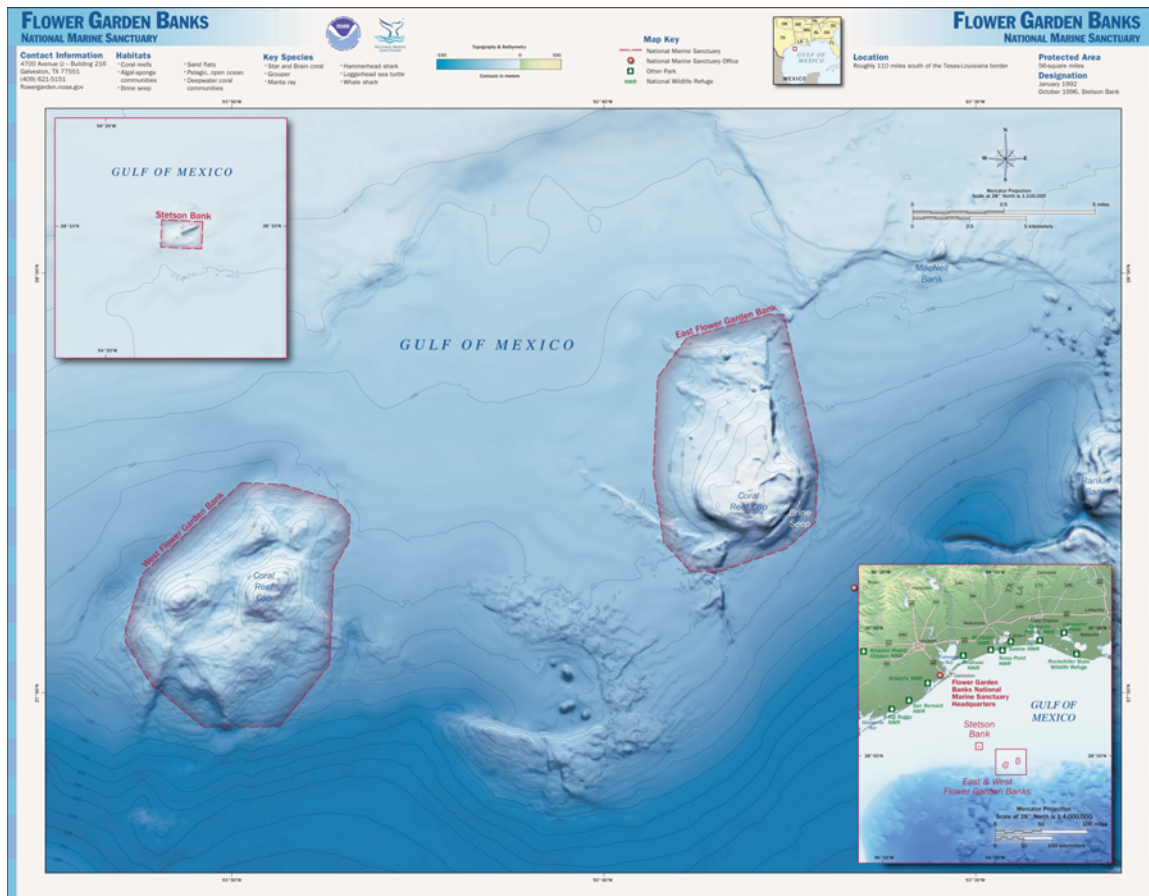


Figure 2: Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary